

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, JA
SUBJECT: JCP'S MIYAMOTO TO RUN FOR UPPER HOUSE

SUMMARY. JCP CHAIRMAN MIYAMOTO HAS DECIDED TO RUN FOR
UPPER HOUSE SEAT AND IS LIKELY TO ASSUME CENTRAL
COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP IN NEAR FUTURE. END SUMMARY

1. FOLLOWING PLENARY SESSION OF JCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 28, CENTRAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SANZO NOSAKA,
84, ANNOUNCED HE WOULD NOT SEEK REELECTION TO UPPER
HOUSE BUT THAT JCP CHAIRMAN KENJI MIYAMOTO WOULD RUN
FOR NATIONAL CONSTITUENCY IN JULY UPPER HOUSE ELECTION.

2. MIYAMOTO, WHO HAS NEVER HELD DIET SEAT, LATER TOLD
PRESS THAT DECISION TO RUN WAS MADE AT PROMPTING OF
PARTY MEMBERS AND BECAUSE, "GENERALLY SPEAKING, IT
IS GOOD IDEA" FOR PARTY LEADER TO PARTICIPATE IN DIET
ACTIVITY. MIYAMOTO ALSO SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO
CRITICISM IN CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENARY OF JCP POLICY
OR OF "SOFT LINE" PARTY HAD TAKEN IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN.
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HE EXPLAINED THAT MAIN REASON JCP DID POORLY IN
DECEMBER 5 ELECTION WAS ITS INABILITY TO CUT THROUGH
ANTI-COMMUNIST ATTACKS BY OTHER PARTIES, NOTABLY DSP.

3. COMMENT. CRITICS OF JCP HAVE POINTED TO ITS
FAILURE TO USE DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES IN PARTY INTERNAL

BUSINESS AND TO MIYAMOTO'S BEING ONLY PARTY CHIEF
WITHOUT DIET SEAT AS EVIDENCE THAT JCP IS NOT
COMMITTED TO DEMOCRACY. MIYAMOTO'S ALMOST CERTAIN
ELECTION TO DIET BY EASIEST, NATIONAL-CONSTITUENCY
UPPER-HOUSE ROUTE WOULD PRESUMABLY DIMINISH VULNERABILITY
TO THAT CRITICISM. PRESS IS SPECULATING, AND WE AGREE,
THAT OLD FIGUREHEAD NOZAWA WILL SOON RETIRE FROM CENTRAL
COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIP AS WELL AS FROM DIET AND THAT
MIYAMOTO, WHO HAS BEEN DE FACTO PARTY BOSS SINCE
1970, WILL BECOME TITULAR HEAD AS WELL.
HODGSON

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